(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Besides Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Lucknow, some of the other Agencies involved in the research and propopogation of medicinal plants in these areas are G.B. Pant Univesity of Agriculture and Technology, Pant Nagar, Uttar Pradesh State Forest Department, Pharmaceutical Laboratory, Ranikhet, Herbal Research Institute, Gopeshwar, Indian Institute of Drug Research of Ayurveda, Ranikhet.

Study on Weather Pattern

6484. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will thePRIME MINSTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been invited to the news-item captioned "Changing weather patterns into the cold" appearing in the 'Economic Times', New Delhi dated March 14,1992;

(b) if so, whether any study has been or is being conducted to analyse climatic changes in the wake of increased volcanic activity and earlier eruptions and the impact of their fallouts on the greenhouse effect; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Fine ash and other particles thrown up during volcanic eruptions tend to create a minor coolling effect, whereas the greenhouse gases from such eruptions have a minor warming effect. The overali effect on global climate would be negligible.

Petro-Chemicals Industry in Rajasthan

6485. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the PRIME MINSTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the applications received from the State Government of Rajasthan or from private individual as on December 31, 1991 to set up petro-chemcicals and allied industries in Rajasthan;

(b) the steps taken to expedite the approval; and

(c) the stage at which the matter stands present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c). Applications for industrial licence for the manufacture of various petro-chemcials, including those of projects proposed to be located in Rajasthan, are received from time to time. These are examined and decided upon on techno-economic considerations, in line with existing policies, as a continuous process. However, most of the itmes in the petro-chemical sector have been de-licensed in the New Industrial Policy announced in July, 1991 and in such cases entrepreneurs are free to set up industry in the States, including Rajasthan.

Grants of Patents

6486. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the basis on which patents are granted;

(b) whether the Government porpose to adopt the standard first to file rule rather than first to invent; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) and (b). The Patents Act, 1970 follows the "First to file" principle for grant of patents.

(c) Does not arise.

DDA Flats to Retiring Government Servants

6487. SHRI ROSHAN LAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Standard Question No. 393 on 12.8.91 and state:

(a) whether the Government propose to include 'Ambedkar Awas Yojana' in the scheme of priority allotment of DDA flats to the Government employees who have retired/ to be retired on or before December 31,1993 and invite applications from such Government employees registered under 'Ambedkar Awas Yojana-1989' and extend the date for recepit of applications suitably;

(b) if so, the time by which such applications are proposed to be recieved; and

(c) if not, the reaons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). The procedure for allotment of flats/plots to the registrants of Ambedkar Awas Yojana is under consideration in the DDA and will be finalised shortly.

Multi-Disciplinary Safety Organisation In Orissa

6488. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the proposal submitted by the Government of Orissa for setting up a'multi-disciplinary safety organisation' in Bhubneswar to control major industrial hazards in hazardous industries of the State is pending with Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be cleared?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) No such proposal is pending with the Ministry of Labour.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Exemption from E.S.I.

6490. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the trade Unions from Hindustan Insedticide Ltd. Eloor, Fertilisers and Chemical Travancore Ltd. and Hindustan Newsprint Ltd., Velloor, Kerala have requested for granting excemption from E.S.I. scheme; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideratien of the Government.

Unauthorised Construction In Hari Nagar

6491. SHRI KESRI LAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to replies given on July 29, 1991 to Unstared Question No. 799 and on December 4, 1991 to unstarred Question No. 2237